

LLANDRINDOD WELLS URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.



Town Hall,
LLANDRINDOD WELLS.

November, 1959.

To the Chairman and Members,

I have pleasure in submitting for your consideration the report of the Sanitary Conditions and Vital Statistics of the Urban District for the year 1958.

This report is prepared in accordance with the instructions issued by the Welsh Board of Health Circular 22/1958 (Wales) and presents briefly the scope of the activities of the Health Department.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "R. G. Evans" or similar, with "B. Sc." written below it.

Medical Officer of Health.

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR
1958.

SECTION A.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area of District	.....	1509 acres
Registrar General's Estimate of Resident Population Mid. 1958	.....	3320 persons
No. of Inhabited Houses at the end of the year (including flats)	.....	1110
Rateable Value - 31st December, 1958	.....	£49,153
Product of Penny Rate	.....	£188. 2. 4

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

The town as in most other holiday towns has now attained a more even trade between summer and winter. The population has it appears become more stable and the influx of new members of the Civil Service employed at the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, which department has greatly extended during the year, has added new life to the many social activities of the town and even caused the start of new societies.

There is no doubt that the administrative departments set up by the various Ministry Departments, the expansion of County Council Schools, and Works and staffs centred in the town and the influx of professional people has greatly added to the well being of the town and its inhabitants.

Unemployment at the end of the year was very little and the practice of the housewife in going out to work as well as the husband has become more noticeable, in particular this is so during the holiday season when the larger hotels and catering establishments are having difficulties in satisfying staff requirements.

The increase in retired residential population was maintained and it is these new inhabitants who so greatly appreciate the clean atmospheric conditions and the extensive open and woodland areas of the town, The provision of houses by private enterprise building will make it possible for further expansion of this population.

The Climatological conditions of 1958 were as detailed in the following tabulation which includes comparisons with the three previous years:-

	<u>1958</u>	<u>1957</u>	<u>1956</u>	<u>1955</u>
Total Rainfall	45.84	40.06	32.49	35.66
Highest Maximum Temperature	75°F	85°F	76°F	84°F
Average Maximum Temperature	54.7°F	55°F	53.8°F	54.9°F
Lowest Minimum Temperature	5°F	19°F	3°F	13°F
Average Minimum Temperature	40.7°F	42.3°F	46.7°F	39.8°F
Sunshine Hours	1112.1	1335.3	1324.9	1547.2

The year's weather was generally wet and dull, rainfall was well above average caused by the heavy rains of June, July, August and September when a total of 18.36 inches of rainfall was recorded, a very similar year for rainfall as 1954.

The sunshine hours were very low, the lowest for at least 10 years, the months of March, April and May were the sunshine months of the year and well

exceeding in total those of June, July and August.

Temperatures were on average, the winter was not exceptionally cold and the highest maximum of the summer was slightly below past years. Parts of the British Isles recorded cold spells in March, this was not so noticeable in Llandrindod Wells.

The poor summer and generally poor weather conditions of the year cannot be said to have had any detrimental affects on the health of the population and no serious illnesses occurred which could be traced to weather conditions.

OCCUPATIONS.

The increase in the classes of professional and administrative population was continued. The effects of centralised administration of Government Departments and Government Trading Establishments together with the modernisation of farming by mechanical machinery and installations has noticeably benefited the townspeople and given a greater range of employment to young people. Technical training facilities for these young people may, however, be lacking. The trend to leave the town of the students of the Grammar School still continues.

The tourist trade of the town was again successful and it was noticeable that accommodation at the height of the holiday season was insufficient. The high standard of the hotels in catering for the holiday-maker was maintained.

As stated in my report of 1957 there is still a lack of residential houses and small dwelling houses, sites for the erection of private houses are becoming more difficult to obtain and the aim of the Council to provide housing sites on land belonging to the Council is a step in the right direction.

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TABLE 1

VITAL STATISTICS OF THE DISTRICT DURING 1958

		<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Live Births	{ Legitimate	47	19	28
	{ Illegitimate	6	3	3
		<u>53</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>31</u>
Still Births	{ Legitimate	1	-	1
	{ Illegitimate	-	-	-
		<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1</u>

Birth Rate per 1000 of the Estimated Population:-

Live Births	15.66
Still Births per 1000 Live and Still Births	18.5
Total of Live and Still Births	54

Birth Rate for the previous years:-

1957 -	12.7
1956 -	12.1
1955 -	10.12
1954 -	14.00
1953 -	9.77
1952 -	14.30
1951 -	13.90
1950 -	13.10

Total Infant Deaths	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
	2	1	1
Infant Mortality Rate per 1000 live births	37.7
Infant Mortality Rate per 1000 live births (Legitimate)	42.5
Infant Mortality Rate per 1000live births (Illegitimate)	Nil
Neo-Natal Mortality Rate per 1000live births (First four weeks)	37.7
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	11.32%
Maternal Deaths (including abortion)	Nil
Maternal mortality rate per 1000 live and still births..	Nil

<u>DEATHS</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
No. of Deaths	45	21	24

The Death Rate per 1000 of the Estimated Resident Population was 13.55

Death Rate for previous years:-

1957 -	11.76
1956 -	15.4
1955 -	15.33
1954 -	13.41
1953 -	15.9
1952 -	16.4
1951 -	12.50
1950 -	10.31

Deaths from Puerperal causes	Nil
Death Rate from Puerperal causes	Nil
Deaths from malignant diseases	3
Deaths from Measles	Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	Nil
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	Nil

TABLE 2.

STATISTICS OF CAUSES OF DEATH

Causes of Death	M.	F.
All causes	21	24
1. Tuberculosis Respiratory	Nil	Nil
2. Tuberculosis other	Nil	Nil
3. Syphilitic disease	Nil	Nil
4. Diphtheria	Nil	Nil
5. Whooping Cough	Nil	Nil
6. Acute Poliomyelitis	Nil	Nil
7. Measles	Nil	Nil
8. Other infective and parasitic diseases		
(i) Malignant Neoplasm - Stomach	Nil	Nil
(ii) " " - Lung bronchus	Nil	Nil
(iii) " " - Breast	Nil	Nil
(iv) " " - Uterus	Nil	Nil
(v) Other Malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	1	2
(vi) Leukaemia Alenkaernia	Nil	Nil
9. Vascular Lesions of nervous system	8	6
10. Diabetes	Nil	Nil
11. Coronary disease angina	7	5
12. Hypertensia with heart disease	Nil	Nil
13. Other heart disease	4	4
14. Other circulatory disease	Nil	Nil
15. Influenza	Nil	Nil
16. Pneumonia	Nil	Nil
17. Bronchitis	Nil	1
18. Other diseases of respiratory system	Nil	Nil
19. Ulcer of Stomach and duodenum	Nil	1
20. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	Nil	Nil
21. Nephritis and nephrosis	Nil	1
22. Hyperplasia of Prostate	Nil	Nil
23. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	Nil	Nil
24. Congenital malformations	Nil	Nil
25. Other defined and illdefined disease	1	4
26. Motor Vehicle Accidents	Nil	Nil
27. All other accidents	Nil	Nil
28. Suicide	Nil	Nil
29. Homicide and operations of War	Nil	Nil

SECTION B.GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.1. Public Officers:-

Medical Officer of Health (Part time)

Dr. J. Emrys Jenkins, M.A., B.M., B.Ch.,

Chalfont, South Crescent, Llandrindod Wells.

Tel. No. 2000

Public Health Inspector (Part time)

R.J. Morris, A.R.I.C.S., M.R.San. I., Cert. S.I.,

Town Hall, Llandrindod Wells.

Tel. No. 2222

2. Laboratory Facilities

(a) The examination and analysis of water, sewage effluents and stream contamination are carried out by the Public Analyst of the County Laboratories, Carmarthen. Analyst - H.J. Evans & Partners.

(b) The examination of milk and ice-cream samples are carried out at the Public Health Laboratories, Shrewsbury Infirmary.

3. HEALTH SERVICES. The following services are carried out by the Radnorshire County Council under the National Health Service Act, 1946, The County Council Services are efficiently and well organised.

- (i) Maternity and Child Welfare
- (ii) Clinics
- (iii) Dental care for expectant mothers and nursing mothers and young children together with School Dental Services.
- (iv) Midwives Service, delegated to the Radnorshire County Nursing Association.
- (v) Health visiting delegated to the Radnorshire County Nursing Association
- (vi) Vaccination and immunisation of children under five and of school age is carried out by Registered Medical Practitioners of the parents choice or by the County Medical Officer.

The vaccination of adults is carried out by Registered Medical Practitioners.

- (vii) Ambulance Service
- (viii) Prevention of Illness, Care and After Care of persons suffering from tuberculosis, mental illness or defectiveness and other types of illness is organised under the aegis of the County Health Committee.
- (ix) Domiciliary Health Services.
- (x) Home Nursing delegated to the Radnorshire County Nursing Association.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply. The purification and clarification of the water as taken from the River Ithon was satisfactory throughout the year.

Discolouration of the water in supply occurred due to disturbance of the incrustated water mains and on one occasion due to electrical fault on reservoir boosting plant when the deposit on the bed of the Llanfawr Reservoir was passed into the town.

The main source of supply remained the River Ithon and purification as previously reported. Flood conditions in the River Ithon was experienced during the months of July, August, September and October.

Chlorination has been maintained to give a free chlorine content of between 0.1 to 0.3 p.p.m. after 30 minutes contact. Tabulated list of Analyst's Reports are given in Table 3.

A new 1¼ inch high tensile Alkathene service main was laid to properties at Alexandra Road, this being the first section of this type of tube to be used by the Council. Five new water service connections were made and 16 existing services renewed. A bulk supply of water to the Rhayader Rural District Council for properties in the Parish of Llanbadarn Fawr was commenced in April of the year.

Statistics in respect of the Water Supply are detailed below:-

Estimated Population supplied from Public Water Mains	3291
Estimated Population not supplied from Public Water Mains	29
Number of Dwelling Houses or Flats supplied direct into Premises	1096
Number of Dwelling Houses and Farms supplied by means of stand pipes	10
Estimated Population supplied by stand pipes	40
Number of premises (farms) with own piped supplies	5
" " " " with no piped supplies	Nil
Premises supplied from mains and outside Urban District	13
Estimated Population so supplied	60

TABLE 3.

Bacteriological Analysis for the year 1958 carried out by H.J.Evans & Partners, Public Anslyst, Bank Lane, Carmarthen.

(a) Water taken from domestic taps of water supplied from River Ithon.

Date of Sample	No. of Organisms 48 hrs. at 22°C	Coli present in CC's					Remarks
		100	50	25	20	10	
16: 1: 58	7	Nil	-	-	-	-	Highly Satisfactory
28: 3: 58	6	Nil	-	-	-	-	" "
12: 6: 58	Nil	Nil	-	-	-	-	" "
28: 7: 58	3	Nil	-	-	-	-	" "
8: 9: 58	1	Nil	-	-	-	-	" "
29:10: 58	3	Nil	-	-	-	-	" "
1:12: 58	4	Nil	-	-	-	-	" "

(b) Water taken from domestic tap of water supplied from Gorse Spring.

28: 3: 58	1	Nil	Highly Satisfactory
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Following the occasion of the electrical fault of the boosting plant at the Llanfawr Reservoir difficulties arose in the removal of reservoir deposit out of the water mains and a sample of this deposit was filtered from the water and forwarded for analysis. The report on same being detailed below:-

"The dark grey deposit on the filter paper was found to consist of about two thirds organic and a third inorganic matter.

The organic matter contained vegetable cells,hairs and fibres; diatoms were also present in some abundance.

The inorganic portions had the following compositions:-

Sand and Siliceous matter	37.8%
Iron Oxide (Fe ₂ O ₃)	15.0%
Alumina (Al ₂ O ₃)	41.8%
Calcium Carbonate (CaCo ₃)	5.4%
	<u>100.0</u>

The sand and siliceous matter derived from suspended matter in the river could have been caused by the clayey suspension mentioned in your letter. The other organic constituent in greatest amount was alumina. As this was present in acid soluble form it is likely to be residual alumina present in the water

After treatment which had subsequently been precipitated the other significant constituent was iron.As this metal was present in too large a quantity to be accounted for naturally, it is likely that the water - before its pH has been corrected - had attacked some iron surfaces.

The combination of the iron with tannates from vegetable organic matter accounts for the dark colour of the sediment.

The deposit was tested for the presence of toxic elements;apart from a trace of zinc none were found.

In our opinion the deposit did not contain any matter injurious to health.

TABLE 4

WATER CONSUMPTION (All Consumers and Trades)

Year	Water pumped to Service Reservoirs	Estimated Population served	Estimated Consumption per head per day	Trade Consumption Metered Supplied	Bulk Supplies
1958	60,270,000	3351	49.2	13,258,000	111,000
1957	61,340,000	3261	51.5	11,963,000	
1956	71,640,000	3280	58.9	14,290,000	
1955	75,110,000	3310	62.1	15,145,000	
1954	70,630,000	3280	58.0	12,684,000	
1953	68,000,000	3275	56.8	12,500,000	
1952	66,710,000	3286	38.9	11,750,000	
1951	67,690,000	3250(Census)	48.7	10,250,000	
1950	62,010,000	3586	44.6	10,250,000	
1949	67,490,000	3438	51.0	9,250,000	

The tabulation shows a decrease on the 1957 figures of 1,070,000 gallons. The consumption is still high as compared with the national average, the trade and hotel consumptions, however, account for 12 gallons per head per day which reduces the consumption to 37 gallons per head per day for domestic use.

Drainage and Sewerage.

Drainage. No alterations or extensions of the drainage systems of the town were carried out during the year. The sewers are on the partial separate system and the volume of flow varies greatly with the rainfall.

The Lea Recorder was transferred from the Rhydillyndu Disposal Works to the Ddole Road Works and recordings taken at this Works up to the end of the year.

Sewage Disposal

General. Repairs to plant and tanks were carried out at both works during the year.

Improvement Scheme. Preparatory work on calculations and plans for the improvement and reconstruction of the two disposal works was proceeded with. Preliminary plans and estimates of three possible schemes of improvement of the sewage disposal methods for the town were drawn up and after discussions with the Consulting Engineers and Ministry, the scheme eventually decided upon comprises the conveyance of the sewage to the Ddole Road Works to Rhydillyndu by pumping and gravitation, and the modernisation and enlargement of the Rhydillyndu Works to take the increased flow and to give satisfactory effluent.

Rivers and Streams. Examinations were carried out of the two streams which pass through the Urban District.

No action was necessary to prevent pollution by industrial or other wastes.

PUBLIC CLEANSING. The collection of household and trade refuse proceeded as in other years by the Council's own staff and vehicles. The collection from domestic properties being once in each week and certain trade and hotel premises twice each week.

Disposal of refuse by incineration was continued.

The collection of waste paper and other waste materials was maintained and 19 tons 18 cwts of waste paper, and 21 tons 1 cwt. of destructor scrap were disposed of. The separation of bottles and glass in 1957 was continued and 25 tons 6cwts. of white cullett was disposed of. The organisation of the West Wales Scrap Committee which arranged for and subsidised the disposal of refuse destructor scrap terminated its activities during the year.

A large accumulation of clinker and ashes was removed from the incinerator tip during the year.

FOOD.

Food Hygiene. The enforcement of the Food Hygiene Regulations was carried out by inspection and circulation of posters and pamphlets to food preparation premises, catering establishments and hotels.

No prosecutions were found necessary.

TABLE 5.

Inspection and Supervision of Food

Milk.

Non-Residential designated pasteurised retailers and designated traders	-	2
Residential designated ditto ditto	-	1
Residential registered dairymen designated retailers	-	1
Non-Residential designated retailers	-	3
Wholesale producers in Urban District	-	4
Visits to cowsheds during the year	-	5
Visits to dairies during the year	-	4
Samples of milk tested during the year	-	Nil
Action taken by Council in respect of unclean milk during the year	-	Nil

TABLE 6 .

<u>Foods</u>	<u>Number of Food Premises and Types</u>	
Manufacturers other than bakehouses	-	Nil
Bakehouses for bread and confectionery	-	3
Bakehouses for confectionery only	-	1
Confectioners - Retail	-	7
Fish and Chip Fryers	-	2
Retail Green Grocers	-	5
Grocers	-	11
Hotels - Public and Private	-	14
Milk Shops	-	Nil
Meat Retailers	-	6
Licensed Premises	-	6
Pork Butchers	-	Nil
Restaurants	-	5
Sausage and Cold Meat Producers	-	4
Fishmongers	-	2
Deep Freeze (Frozen Foods)	-	7
<u>Number Registered under Section 16 of Food and Drugs Act</u>		
Ice Cream	-	16
Cooked Meats	-	3

No ice cream is manufactured at a local premises.

<u>Number of Dairies Registered under Milk and Dairies Regulations.</u>	
	- 1
Number of Inspections of Registered Food Premises	- 8
Number of Inspections of Bakehouses	- 9
Complaints received in respect of Foods	- Nil
Number of Inspections of Food Preparation Establishments	- 24

TABLE 7.

<u>Foods Surrendered or Condemned and Destroyed</u>	
Various canned foods:- Soup	- 6 tins
Fruit	- 30 tins
Vegetables	- 15 tins
Fish	- 4 tins
Milk	- 10 tins
Fish and Fish Cakes	- 46 lbs.
Bacon	- 30 lbs.
Cooked canned meats	- 45 lbs.
Cooked Meats	- 6 lbs.
Poultry	- Nil
Vegetables	- Nil

Condemned food, unless salvagable, is destroyed at the incinerator.

No special examination of stocks or consignment of foods were carried out.

Adulteration of Foods. The administration of the Acts dealing with the adulteration of food is carried out by the Officers of the Radnorshire County Council and no particulars are available to my Council.

Food Poisoning Outbreaks. No cases of food poisoning occurred during the year.

Meat Inspection.

Slaughterhouses in use during the year - four; of which two are for slaughter of sheep and pigs only.

The slaughterhouse licence withdrawn in 1957 was re-issued after works of improvement had been carried out to the slaughterhouse

A large volume of meat, in particular beef, and in the winter and spring, mutton is purchased by retailers from the wholesalers at Shrewsbury, Craven Arms and Builth Wells.

TABLE 8.

ANIMALS KILLED, INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle Excluding Cows.	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs	Horses
Number killed approximately	65	Nil	5	1866	70	Nil
Number inspected	63	-	Nil	730	21	Nil
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci.</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	Nil	-	-	Nil	-	Nil
Carcasses of which some part or organ condemned.	7	-	-	21	-	Nil
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	11%	-	Nil	3%	Nil	Nil
<u>Tuberculosis only.</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	Nil	-	Nil	-	Nil	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ condemned	Nil	-	Nil	-	Nil	-
Percentage of the number inspected with tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	-	-
<u>Cysticercosis.</u>						
Carcasses of which some part or organ condemned	Nil	-	Nil	-	Nil	-
Carcasses submitted to treatment by Refrigeration	Nil	-	Nil	-	Nil	-
Generalised and Totally condemned	Nil	-	Nil	-	Nil	-

H O U S I N G

In accordance with the instructions of Circular 17/55 Wales, the inclusion of details on housing matters are omitted.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

Summary of the work of the Sanitary Inspector's Department.

Total number of Inspections and Visits made - 409

Nuisances.

No. of visits re. nuisances	31
Visits re works in progress	3
Notices issued	
(a) Informal letters)	
(b) Informal notices)	10
(c) Statutory notices	2
Notices and letters complied with	10
Outstanding	2
Legal Proceedings	Nil

Housing.

Inspection	32
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Food Preparing Places

No. of Inspections	24
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Slaughterhouses.

No. of visits (approx.)	200
No. of Condemnations	28

Foods.

No. of seizures of unsound food	Nil
No. of condemnations	16

Dairymen.

No. of Registered	2
No. of Inspections	4
No. of Retailers	7
No. of milk samples for T.B.	Nil
No. of milk samples found to produce T.B.	Nil
No. of enquiries under P.M.A. Regulations re. Contacts	Nil
No. of milk samples for test	Nil

Dairies.

No. of Registered Traders	2
No. of Dairies	2
No. of Inspections	4

Moveable Dwellings.

No. Registered	1
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Bakehouses.

No. in use	4
No. of Inspections	5

Lodging Houses.

No. Registered	Nil
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Water Supply.

No. of samples taken	8
No. found polluted	Nil
Houses and flats connected to supply	1096
New Houses and premises connected	4
New connections to houses	16

Infectious Diseases.

No. of enquiries	2
No. taken to hospital	Nil
No. of houses disinfected	3
No. of houses disinfected re fleas, lice etc.	1

Water Closets.

No. of improved or repaired	4
No. of bucket closets in district	4
No. of cesspools or septic tanks in district	10
No. of earth closets in district	3
No. of chemical closets in district	4

House Draining.

No. laid or relaid	4
No. cleansed	15
No. repaired	10
No. of Inspections	36
No. of Tests	19

Licensed Premises.

Action taken in respect of sanitation	Nil
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Accumulation of litter

Action taken in respect of	3
Inspection for ditto	10

Dangerous Structures.

Action taken in respect of	Nil
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CAMPING SITES.

1. Number of sites in area for camping purposes under canvas during 1958	1
2. Number of caravan camping sites	1
3. Number of camping sites requiring to be licensed in accordance with Public Health Act	Nil
4. Number of caravan camping sites licensed under Public Health Act,.....	Nil
5. Estimated maximum number of campers in the area at one time during 1958	40

Smoke Abatement. Inspections made in respect of smoke abatement - Nil

 Action taken in connection with Nil

Swimming Baths and Pools. The Swimming Pool is now operated by the Council and was open for public use during the summer, and used to a reduced extent as compared with previous summers.

 Tests for chlorination - Daily

 It was found that the purification and filtration plant was effeciently worked and purification was satisfactory with possible over chlorination.

Rodent Control Work.

Premises.

Number of inspections made	-	679
Premises found infested	-	27
Treatments carried out by Council	-	27
Treatments carried out by occupier	-	Nil
Dead rats picked up	-	55

Sewer Treatments. Maintenance treatments of sewers was carried out in 1958.

 16 manholes were baited.

 5 manholes showed presence of rats

 5 manholes showed poison bait takes
